

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
3550 Mullan Road, Suite 106
Missoula, MT 59808

(406) 829-3395-Office
(406) 829-3455-Fax

February 3, 2003

Lynn Zollinger, P.E.
Carter & Burgess
420 East South Temple, Suite 345
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

RECEIVED

FEB 05 2003

CARTER & BURGESS, INC.

Re: Farmland Conversion Impact Rating

Dear Mr. Zollinger

Enclosed is the Farmland Conversion Impact Rating (Form AD-1006) for the Bigfork North and South highway right of way project. I have completed Parts II and IV. The acreages used for the different farmland classes in Part IV are those you provided in your letter of January 23.

If you need further assistance please contact me at 406 829-3395, extension 115.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neal Svendsen", written over a horizontal line.

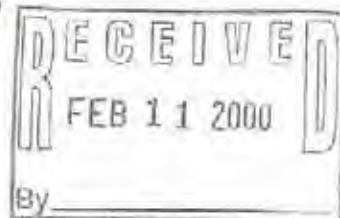
Neal Svendsen
Resource Soil Scientist

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Date Of Land Evaluation Request <u>1/23/03</u>			
Name Of Project <u>Biglork North and South</u>		Federal Agency Involved <u>Federal Highway Administration</u>			
Proposed Land Use <u>Highway right of way</u>		County And State <u>Flathead & Lake Counties, MT Dept. of Trans.</u>			
PART II (To be completed by NRCS)		Date Request Received By NRCS <u>1/27/03</u>			
Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? (If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form).		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Acres Irrigated <u>27,000</u>	Average Farm Size <u>350</u>
Major Crop(s) <u>Spring wheat</u>	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: <u>154,300</u> % <u>21</u>	Amount Of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: <u>93,800</u> <u>13</u> %		Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS 4/20/03 <u>2/3/03</u>	
Name Of Land Evaluation System Used <u>Upper Flathead Valley Area Soil Survey</u>	Name Of Local Site Assessment System <u>None Available</u>				
PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)		Alternative Site Rating			
		Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	<u>10.0</u>				
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly	<u>10.0</u>				
C. Total Acres In Site	<u>20.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>	<u>0.0</u>
PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information					
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland	<u>7.2</u>				
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland	<u>12.8</u>				
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted	<u>0.02</u>				
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value	<u>34%</u>				
PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted (Scale of 0 to 100 Points)		<u>65</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria (These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(b))		Maximum Points			
1. Area In Nonurban Use	<u>15</u>	<u>15</u>			
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>			
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed	<u>20</u>	<u>10</u>			
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government	<u>20</u>	<u>0</u>			
5. Distance From Urban Buildup Area	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>			
6. Distance To Urban Support Services	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>			
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>			
8. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland	<u>25</u>	<u>0</u>			
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>			
10. On-Farm Investments	<u>20</u>	<u>0</u>			
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	<u>25</u>	<u>0</u>			
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	<u>10</u>	<u>0</u>			
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS	<u>160</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)					
Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part V)	<u>100</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Site Assessment (From Part VI above or a local site assessment)	<u>160</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)	<u>260</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Reason For Selection:					



Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks



1420 East Sixth Avenue
PO Box 200701
Helena, MT 59620-0701
February 7, 2000

Wendy Wallach
Carter Burgess
216 16th Street Mall
Denver, CO 80202

RE: MT35 - .3 miles from Woods Bay to 1 mile North of Big Fork

Dear Ms. Wallach:

We have reviewed your above-mentioned proposed project area and would like to bring to your attention the existence of two LWCF funded sites near to the road you are planning. Attached for your information is a map of both sites.

This site was developed with the assistance of federal money through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. If any part of the site will be affected by your project, we will have to work with the federal government to mitigate any impacts.

If you feel there may be a potential impact, please contact me and I will provide you with any additional information you may require.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

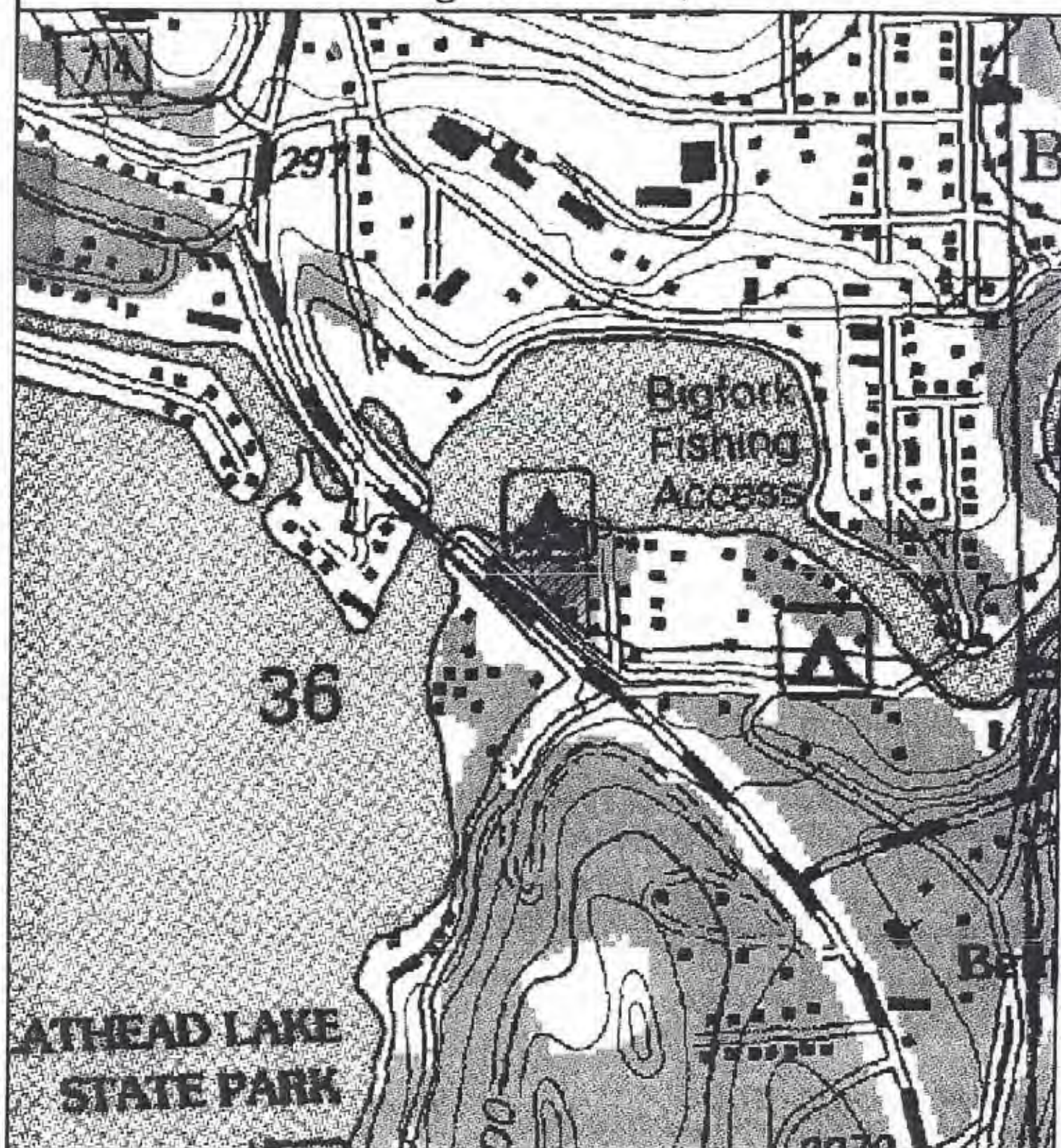
Sincerely,

Ken Soderberg
LWCF Program Officer
Parks Division

c: Tom Atkins MDT


Attachment

Big Fork FAS



Lands File Number: 1311
T27N/R20W



0.403 acres

Fee Simple
FAS Parcel

1.238 acres

Leased
FAS Parcel

Fishing Access Sites (FAS) are digitized and maintained by the Information Services Unit of the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks. FAS's were digitized at 1:24,000 using the COGO module of Arc/Info. The background image is a USGS 2.5 minute quadrangle digital raster graphic.

0 500 1000

Scale in feet
Scale 1:6000



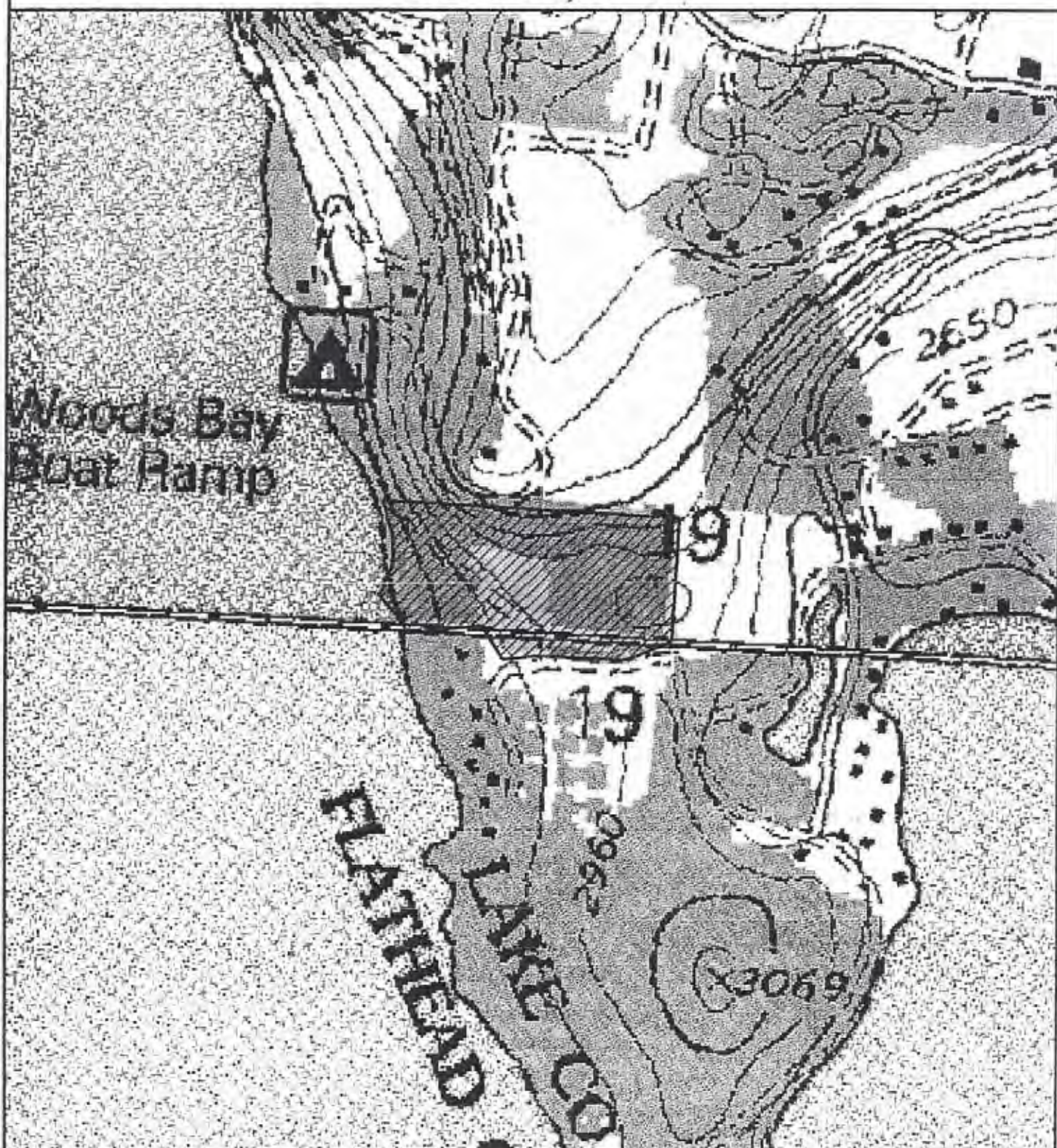
Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks

Map produced by NRIS,
request# 00FWP6 - September 21, 1999

Region 1

Name	Directions	Handicap Accessible	Day Use Only	Boat Ramps	All Season	Latrine	Camping	Access for Camp Trailers	Stay Limit	Camping Fee	Other Information
Ashley Creek	11 miles west of Kalispell on Hwy 93, then 1/2 miles on Rogers Lake Road to bridge.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Undeveloped site.
Ashley Lake	16 miles west of Kalispell on Hwy 2, then 13 miles north on gravel road.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Beaver Lake	6 1/2 miles west of Whitefish on Hwy 93, then 2 1/2 miles east on Beaver Lake Road.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Carry-in boat launch only
Bigfork	Off Hwy 35 at Milepost 31.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

Woods Bay FAS



Lands File Number: 1537
T26N/R19W



11,625 acres



Fee Simple
FAS Parcel

0 acres



Leased
FAS Parcel

0 500 1000

Scale in feet
Scale 1:6000

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Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks

Map produced by NRIS,
request# 00FWP6 - September 23, 1999

Name	Directions	Handicap Accessible	Day Use Only	Boat Ramps	All Season	Latrine	Camping	Access for Camp Trailers	Stay Limit	Camping Fee	Other Information
Thompson Chain-of-Lakes	Along Hwy 2 from 35 miles west of Kalispell to 55 miles west of Kalispell.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	14	<input type="checkbox"/>	Numerous lake sites in the 20 mile length of lakes. Primitive sites.
Walstad	10 miles north of Polson on Hwy 93 at milepost 72.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Whitefish River	9 miles north of Kalispell on Whitefish Stage Road, then east on Hodgson Road.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Undeveloped site.
Woods Bay	14 miles south of Bigfork on Hwy 35 to milepost 27, then 1 mile west on Co. Road.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, OMAHA DISTRICT
HELENA REGULATORY OFFICE
301 SOUTH PARK, DRAWER 10014
HELENA, MONTANA 59626-0014

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

December 12, 2000

Helena Regulatory Office
Phone: (406) 441-1375
Fax: (406) 441-1380

Subject: Bigfork - North & South
MDT - Montana Highway 35
Preliminary Comments

Fred Bente
Consultant Design Section
Montana Department Of Transportation
2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena, Montana 59620-1001

Dear Mr. Bente:

This letter is in response to a request for public comments on the upcoming Bigfork - North and South project on Montana Highway 35. Comments from the US Army Corps of Engineers include the following:

1. Roadway alignments, grades and fill slopes should be selected that avoid or minimize project impacts to the aquatic environment to the greatest extent practicable. The aquatic environment includes wetlands, streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes. It will be necessary to furnish documentation of these avoidance and minimization efforts when a Section 404 Clean Water Act Permit Application is made.
2. Compensatory mitigation will be required for unavoidable impacts to the aquatic environment. The US Army Corps of Engineers typically requires a perpetual conservation easement for any mitigation site.
3. The project is within the known range of various federally listed threatened or endangered species. The project's effects on these species must be considered appropriately during the planning, design and construction phases of this project.
4. The US Army Corps of Engineers has no preference on whether the bridge over the Swan River is rehabilitated or replaced; in either case, the work must comply with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

Please keep us informed of the project details as they are determined. We appreciate the chance to comment on the project at this early stage, and we look forward to reviewing this project as it develops. If you have any questions please contact me at (406)441-1375.

Sincerely,

Todd N. Tillinger, P.E.
Project Manager

cc: Amy Zaref, Carter-Burgess, Inc.
Gordon Stockstad, MDT - Environmental Services

FLATHEAD

THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD NATION

P.O. Box 278
Pablo, Montana 59855
(406) 675-2700
FAX (406) 675-2806
10/13/99



NATION

Tribal Preservation Office

Joseph E. Dupuis - Executive Secretary
Vern L. Clairmont - Executive Treasurer
Frederick Cordier - Sergeant-at-Arms

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

† Michael T. Pablo - Chairman
D. Fred Matt - Vice Chairman
Carole J. Lankford - Secretary
Wm. Joseph Moran - Treasurer
Donald "Donny" Dupuis
Michael Durglo, Jr.
Jami Hamel
Mary Leffland
Elmer "Sonny" Morigean
Lloyd D. Irvine

Kathy McKay
491 Eckelberry Dr.
Columbia Falls, MT. 59912

RE: Six-mile Highway Widening and Realignment Project Highway 35 in the Bigfork Area

Dear Kathy,

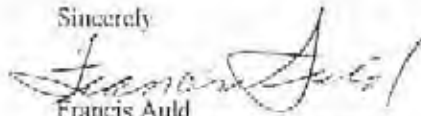
The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Tribal Preservation Office, concerns regarding this proposed project would be the protection of cultural resources. It is well documented that the Salish and Kootenai Indian people traveled throughout these areas.

Cultural Resources as defined by the National Historic Preservation Act, are tangible remains of past human activity within the landscape. Cultural resources are identified and defined as geographic units or "sites" where past human activity occurred and evidence of past use can be documented. Generally, any site of human activity than 50 years is considered to be a potential cultural resource. The National Historic Preservation Act requires agencies to identify any cultural resource properties which might be effected by a federal undertaking. An undertaking refers to any federal action, activity, or program, or the approval, assistance, or support of any action, activity, or program, including those involving a federal lease, permit, license, or other entitlement for use (CFR 800.3). If the cultural resources is affiliated with American Indian use, then consultation with tribes who have heritage associated with the prehistoric site begins. Once identified, cultural resource properties must be formally evaluated by the federal agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, to determine whether or not the property is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. If the property is found to be eligible, the federal agency must determine whether or not the property will be adversely affected by the undertaking. When adverse effects are anticipated, the agency may choose to redesign the project to protect the property. Or, if avoidance is not feasible, the agency must mitigate any adverse effects to the property. Mitigation plans are devised by the agency reviewed by culturally affiliated tribes (if properties are prehistoric) and approved by the State Historic Preservation Office and Advisory Council on Historic Places.


Also as per our meeting October 13, 1999, we mentioned that in the areas of highly defined ground disturbance that someone should monitor some of the ground that's being moved and monitor the area until the area of specific disturbance is completed.

If you have any question please feel free to give me a call at (406) 675-2700 ext.1076.

Sincerely,


Francis Auld
Tribal Preservation Assistant

† In honor of the years of dedicated service in the Tribes by the late Michael T. Pablo, the position of Chairman will remain vacant until January 2000, with the Vice Chairman assuming the duties as provided by the TNEC Constitution.

JOSEF
MDT


Montana Department
of Transportation

2701 Prospect Avenue
PO Box 201001
Helena MT 59620-1001

Marc Radtke Governor

2000121406

May 22, 2000

Mark Baumler
State Historic Preservation Office
1410 8th Avenue
P.O. Box 201202
Helena, MT 59620-1202

ME 25

Subject: STPP 52-1(18)27
Bigfork - North & South
Control No. 4035

CONCURRENCE
MONTANA SHPG

DATE 3/16/2001 SIGNED

Enclosed is the cultural resource report, CRABS and site forms for the above project on Montana Highway 35 in Flathead and Lake counties. Kathy McKay of Tracks of the Past recorded 36 historic properties within the designated survey area. Of those, she recommends two site individually eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as representative of post-WWII roadside commercial architecture. They are: the Teepee Café (24LA231) and the Bergie Tourist Court (24LA234). We agree with her recommendation and request your concurrence.

In addition to the above properties, McKay also recommends six sites as contributing to the potential Shore Acres Historic District. They are: 24LA242, 24LA243, 24LA244, 24LA246, 24LA247, and 24LA248. Again, we agree with her recommendations and request your concurrence. A map showing the proposed boundaries for the potential historic district will follow.

Finally, also enclosed is the site form for the Swan River Bridge (24FH935) at Bigfork. The site is, however, covered under the terms of a programmatic agreement and no Determination of Eligibility is required.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 444-6258.

Jon Axline
Jon Axline, Historian
Environmental Services

RECEIVED

JAN 19 2001

Enclosures

ENVIRONMENTAL

cc: Loran Frazier, P.E., Missoula District Administrator
Carl Peil, P.E., Preconstruction Bureau
Gordon Stockstad, Resources Bureau

File: MDT/Bigfork - North & South

(New)